

Filed Via EFS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Appln No. 10/776,648
(Attorney's Docket No. DWNS.62631)

Filed: February 10, 2004
Confirmation No. 2005

Inventor: Huzeir Lekovic et al

Art Unit: 1711

TITLE: LOW DENSITY ACOUSTIC
FOAMS BASED ON BIOPOLYMERS

Examiner: John M. Cooney

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY APPEAL BRIEF

Sir:

This is Appellants' Reply Brief in response to the Examiner's Answer dated November 21, 2008.

Beginning at page 3 of the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner maintains the rejection of claims 1-9, 19-25 and 48-54 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. More specifically, with respect to Appellants' insertion of limitation to a "non-biopolymer," the Examiner maintains such is not supported by the specification as originally filed. Appellants' maintain that the disclosure as originally filed discloses both biopolymers explicitly, and "non-biopolymers" by implication and therefore Appellants' claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112.

Appellant respectfully requests The Board to take judicial notice of the fact that the term "biopolymer" means, to a person of ordinary skill in the art, a polymeric substance formed in a biological system or naturally occurring in nature. The Board's attention is respectfully directed

to the attached excerpt from Webster's Nine New Collegiate Dictionary, which defines a biopolymer as, "a polymeric substance (as a protein or polysaccharide) formed in a biological system." The Board's attention is also directed to the attached excerpt from Grant & Hackh's Chemical Dictionary, which defines biopolymer as "A naturally occurring macromolecule; as, produced by biosynthesis." Appellants' disclosure as originally filed disclosed and identifies biopolymers such as, but not limited to, castor oil, soy bean oil, and the like useful in making low density acoustic foams. These biopolymers are polymers that naturally occur in biosystems and are not man-made polymers. Appellants' specification as originally filed also discloses polymers that are made by man, including, but not limited, SPECFLEX NC 700 (Dow Chemical), VORANOL 391 (Dow Chemical), and JEFFOL A-480 (Huntsman Chemical), to name but a few examples. These man-made polymers do not naturally occur in a biological system and therefore are properly termed "non-biopolymers." Appellants' are entitled to amend the claims to include terminology that is not literally disclosed in the specification as filed but which is reasonably conveyed by the specification. Appellants are entitled to retreat or otherwise more clearly define terms in the claims provided that the specification reasonably conveys that Appellants were in possession of the claimed subject matter. Appellants, having disclosed man-made polymers which are not biopolymers, are entitled to amend the claims to use the term "non-biopolymer" in an effort to define the prior art.

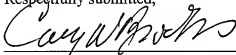
Furthermore, the Examiner's Answer does not maintain any of the other rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 set forth in the Final Office Action. Therefore, Appellants maintain that the sole issue for The Board's review under 35 U.S.C. §112 is whether Appellants' specification reasonably convey that Appellants were in possession of an invention defined by the use of the

term “non-biopolymer” set forth in Appellants’ claims. Appellants respectfully requests The Board reverse the Examiner’s rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Appellants maintain that, with all issues under 35 U.S.C. §112 being resolved in Appellants’ favor, Appellants’ claims define over the prior art for the reasons set forth in Appellants’ Appeal Brief.

In view of the foregoing arguments, and those set forth in Appellants’ Appeal Brief, Appellants respectfully requests The Board to reverse all of the rejections set forth in the Examiner’s Answer.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: January 21, 2009



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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:

Webster's ninth new collegiate dictionary.

Includes index.

I. English language—Dictionaries. I. Merriam-Webster Inc.

PE1628.W5638 1989 423 88-8335

ISBN 0-87779-508-8

ISBN 0-87779-509-6 (indexed)

ISBN 0-87779-510-X (deluxe)

Abi

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[*American, International, European and British Usage*]

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Completely Revised and Edited by

ROGER GRANT

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McGRAW-HILL BOOK COMPANY

*New York St. Louis San Francisco Auckland Bogotá
Hamburg Johannesburg London Madrid Mexico*

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Hackh, Ingo W. D. (Ingo Waldemar Dagobert), 1890-1938.
Grant & Hackh's chemical dictionary.

Rev. ed. of: Chemical dictionary. 4th ed. 1969.
I. Chemistry—Dictionaries. I. Grant, Roger L.
II. Grant, Claire. III. Title. IV. Title: Grant &
Hackh's chemical dictionary. V. Title: Chemical
dictionary.
QD5.IH3 1987 540'.3 86-7496
ISBN 0-07-024067-1

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1234567890 DOCDOC 8943210987

ISBN 0-07-024067-1

The previous edition of this book was *Hackh's Chemical Dictionary*,
4th ed., published by McGraw-Hill in 1969. It was prepared by Dr.
Julius Grant from a *Chemical Dictionary* compiled by Ingo W. D.
Hackh. The current, or 5th, edition of this book was prepared by Dr.
Roger L. Grant, whose father prepared the 4th edition.

*The editors for this book were Betty J. Sun and Susan Thomas,
the designer was Naomi Auerbach, and the production
supervisor was Teresa F. Leaden. It was set in Palatino
by University Graphics, Inc.*

Printed and bound by R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company.

TABLE 15. BIOLOGY-RELATED SCIENCES

Energy transformation	Biophysics
Matter changes	Biochemistry
MORPHOLOGY	Cells Cytology
	Tissues Histology
	Organs Anatomy
	Organisms Taxonomy
PHYSIOLOGY	Generative Embryology
	Sustentative Metabolism
	Correlative Circulation and nerves
PATHOLOGY	Plants Phytopathology
	Animals Zoopathology
	Man Pathology
ETIOLOGY	The race Phylogeny
	The individual Ontogeny
CHOROLOGY	Plants Flora
	Animals Fauna
	Plants and animals Ecology
PALEONTOLOGY	Plants Paleobotany
	Animals Paleozoology
	Man Ethnology

biometry The application of statistics to biological science.

biomolecule A molecule of protoplasm; a unit of living substance. Cf. *idioblast*, *protoplasm*.

biometry The measurement of life phenomena.

bio-osmosis The osmotic pressure of living cells.

biophage A cell or organism feeding on living cells or organisms.

biophore Biomere. The smallest particle of living matter, consisting of protoplasm.

bioplasm Protoplasm.

bioplast Micelle.

biopolymer A naturally occurring macromolecule; as, produced by biosynthesis.

biolization Pasteurization at 100–300 kPa.

bios $C_3H_7O_2N = 133.1$. A crystalline substance similar in character to a vitamin, which was found to be essential for the growth of certain types of yeast, m.223. Now known to consist principally of nicotinic acid and panthothenic acid.

biose A carbohydrate containing 2 carbon atoms, e.g., $HO-CH_2-CHO$. Cf. *ketose*, *hexose*.

biosphere The air, land, sea, and water immediately surrounding mankind.

biosterin Biosterol.

biosterol $C_{27}H_{44}O_2 = 340.7$. An alcohol resembling cholesterol.

biota The flora and fauna of a region.

biotechnology The application of living organisms, or their biological systems or processes, to the manufacture of useful products; e.g., *genetic engineering*, q.v., single-cell protein, q.v., biogas, q.v., drugs (as, insulin) and chemicals from biomass.

biotic Pertaining to life or living organisms.

biotin $C_{10}H_{16}O_2N_2S = 244.3$. A member of the vitamin B complex. Yeasts and bacteria contain or make B. Deficiency occurs only if diet consists largely of raw eggs; their white contains an antivitamin, avidin. B. is a coenzyme for carboxylases. See *vitamins*, Table 101 on p. 622.

biotite A brown-black ferrous mica.

biotoxin A toxin formed in the tissues of the living body.

bioxalate Hydrogenoxalate²⁻.

bioxyl Bismuthyl chloride.

biozeolite A zeolitic biological slime from sewage filters.

biperiden $C_{17}H_{21}ON = 311.5$. Akineton. White crystals, insoluble in water; used to treat Parkinson's disease (USP, BP).

biphenyl (1)* ($C_{12}H_{10}$) = 154.2. Phenylbenzene. Colorless

substance, m.71, insoluble in water. (2) The biphenyl¹ radical.

amino ~ $PhC_6H_4-NH_2 = 169.2$. *ortho* ~ Biphenyl

amine. Colorless crystals, m.45. *para* ~ Xenyl amine, *p*-

phenylamine, m.53. *meta* ~ Xenyl amine, *m*-

phenylamine, m.53. *ortho* ~ Xenyl amine, *o*-

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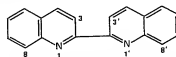
biquinoline* $C_{18}H_{12}N_2 = 256.3$. Diquinoline. 2,2'-~

Crystals, m.196. 2,3-~ Yellow crystals, m.176. 6,6'-~

Crystals, m.181.

biquinolyl* $C_{18}H_{12}N_2 = 256.3$. Diquinolyl, biquinoline.

2,2'-~ m.196.



6,6'-~ Brown crystals, m.94; reagent for cuprous ions (purple complex soluble in many solvents; sensitivity 0.2 ppm).

birch A tree of the genus *Betula*. b. cambor Betulinol. b.

oil Sweet b. oil, betula oil. The essential oil from the bark of

Betula lenta, black birch. Colorless oil, d.1.127–1.182, b.218–

222 (chief constituent is methylsalicylate); a flavoring and

liniment. b-tar oil A tarry oil from the wood of *Betula alba*,

white birch. Brown oil with empyreumatic odor, d.0.886–

0.950, soluble in alcohol (chief constituents phenols and

creosols). Used in ointments and in leather dressing. b-wood

carbon Norit.